

January 17, 2003

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INFO: HQ USAF WASHINGTON DC//ILMM//
AFRL WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OH//MLSS/MLSA//

Subject: INTERIM OPERATIONAL SUPPLEMENT 1-1-8S-1, (APPLICATION AND REMOVAL OF ORGANIC COATINGS, AEROSPACE AND NON - AREOSPACE EQUIPMENT).

1. This Publication supplements T. O. 1-1-8, dated 23 April 2001. A suitable reference to this supplement will be made on the title page of the basic publication. Commanders are responsible for bringing this Interim Operational Supplement to the attention of all affected personnel. MAJCOMS, FOAS, and DRUS are responsible for retransmitting this IOS to subordinate units not included as addressees on this message.
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Purpose: Recent studies have found that Plastic Media Abrasive Blasting operations for paint removal on aircraft and aircraft components contain large amounts of dense particle contamination and are consequently causing unacceptable damage. All operations using Plastic Media Blasting for paint removal in accordance with this technical order will comply immediately with the following replacement of Paragraph 2-21.13.

- 2-21.13 Contamination Testing of Plastic Media. Plastic media shall be tested for contaminants as specified in the following paragraphs. The media used in PMB equipment for paint removal of aircraft and aircraft components shall be sampled and tested every 80 hours of equipment operation time or after each aircraft or large piece of aerospace equipment is blasted (whichever is longer). Non-aerospace equipment such as SE and vehicles are less sensitive to damage from media contamination, so media used to strip these items shall be tested for contamination every 800 hours of equipment operation. Plastic media that is being used to blast steel/ferrous items for paint removal or other coatings removal shall not be used on aluminum aircraft surfaces or components. Media found to have a high-density particle contamination level greater than that specified in paragraph 2-21.13.3.9 shall be purged from the system and replaced with new media. Testing at the ALCs shall be accomplished in the physical sciences laboratory (XX-ALC/MAD). Testing at contractor and field level activities shall be accomplished locally in a designated area adequately equipped to run the test for contamination. Organizations using PMB coatings removal processes in small walk-in or cabinet-type booths are given to option to either test media as specified in the paragraphs that follow, or forego PMB testing and purge the

used media and replace it with new media at intervals not to exceed 80 hours of equipment operation when used on aircraft components, or 800 hours of operation when used on non-aerospace equipment. This option is not applicable to large-scale PMB coatings removal operations where entire aircraft or large subassemblies, such as wings or horizontal/vertical stabilizers, are completely stripped.

3. Point of contact in WR-ALC/LESGL is Rodney A. Forbes, Equipment Specialist, 122, DSN: 468-7046 Ext. 122.

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